

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 05737 111245Z

42

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 SS-20 L-03 H-03

NSC-07 FRB-03 OMB-01 TAR-02 SP-03 SWF-02 AGR-20

AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-11 LAB-06 NSAE-00 OIC-04

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USMISSION OECD PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN UNCTAD OECD

SUBJECT: UNCTAD TDB XIV: OECD CONSULTATIONS ON CHARTER OF
ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES

REF: GENEVA 5670 AND 5683

1. IN CORRIDOR DISCUSSION WITH SALTER (EC), QUESTION OF
DISCUSSIONS ON CHARTER AT OECD MEETING SEPTEMBER 17-18
IN DETERMINING VOTING DECISIONS OF EC COUNTRIES ON CHARTER
AT UNGA. HE SAID THAT IN THE EVENT THAT AN ACCEPTABLE
CHARTER WERE NOT AGREED UPON, IF THE US WISHED TO HAVE THE
EC COUNTRIES VOTE NO ON THE CHARTER AS A WHOLE AND NOT
SIMPLY NO ON A SPECIFIC PARAGRAPHS (WITH AN ABSTENTION ON THE
CHARTER AS A WHOLE), IT WOULD BE NECESSARY FOR THE US AT
THE OECD MEETING TO GIVE CLEAR NOTICE OF HOW IT
INTENDED TO VOTE AND THAT IT WISHED OTHER COUNTRIES TO
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PAGE 02 GENEVA 05737 111245Z

CONSIDER IN ADVANCE THE POSSIBILITY OF JOINING THE US

IN A NO VOTE ON THE CHARTER AS A WHOLE. HE INDICATED THAT IN THE COMMISSION THEY WERE AGREED THAT IN THE FACE OF AN UNACCEPTABLE CHARTER, A NO VOTE ON PARAGRAPHS WITH AN ABSTENTION ON THE CHARTER AS A WHOLE WOULD BE A FRUITLESS ACT.

2. ON THE MATTER OF THE COMMISSION'S POSITION RE THE INCLUSION IN CHARTER OF A PROVISION ON SECURITY OF SUPPLY, SALTER INSISTED THAT IT WAS A MATTER OF PARAMOUNT INTEREST TO THE EC COUNTRIES. HE POINTED OUT WITH ILLUSTRATIVE DETAIL HOW MUCH WORSE EUROPE HAD BEEN AFFECTED BY THE PETROLEUM EMBARGO THAN THE US AND INSISTED THAT SUPPLIES OF RAW MATERIALS WERE ESSENTIAL TO EUROPE WHEREAS THE US WAS LESS DEPENDENT ON IMPORTS. THINKING IN THE COMMISSION HAS COME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT THE CHARTER EXERCISE HAD FOCUSED TOO EXCLUSIVELY ON WHAT WAS BASICALLY A US-LATIN AMERICAN PROBLEM, THE NATIONALIZATION PACKAGE OF ISSUES. THE EC COUNTRIES HAD FOUND WAYS AROUND THIS PROBLEM, PARTICULARLY IN AFRICA, AND IT WAS REALLY A PROBLEM OF THE PAST FOR EUROPE, NOT OF THE FUTURE. UP UNTIL NOW EC WORK ON THE CHARTER HAD BEEN UNDULY DOMINATED BY ITS LEGAL DEPARTMENT, BUT NOW THE COMMISSION (AND BY IMPLICATION THE EC COUNTRIES) WERE FOCUSING ON WHAT VALUE THE CHARTER COULD HAVE FOR EUROPE AND THE ANSWER WAS RECOGNITION OF SECURITY OF SUPPLY.

3. USDEL MEMBER REITERATED US INTEREST IN SECURITY OF SUPPLY ISSUES, BUT SUGGESTED THAT US SAW GATT AS MORE LOGICAL FRAMEWORK FOR DEALING WITH ISSUES. ARGUMENTS IN GENEVA 5670 ON EXCLUSION FROM CHARTER OF SECURITY OF SUPPLY AND OTHER DIFFICULT ISSUES WERE DISCUSSED WITHOUT ANY APPARENT EFFECT. SALTER REITERATED AT END OF CONVERSATION THAT AN UNACCEPTABLE CHARTER FROM THE EC STANDPOINT WAS NOT ONE WHICH DEALT ONLY WITH US CONCERNS, BUT THAT IN ANY EVENT HE WAS PESSIMISTIC ABOUT POSSIBILITIES OF A CHARTER ACCEPTABLE TO GROUP B COUNTRIES AND FELT THAT THE MOST IMPORTANT THING WAS TO GET TOGETHER ON VOTING NO ON THE CHARTER ITSELF IF IT BECAME NECESSARY.

4. UNDERSTANDING HERE IS THAT BLACK FROM US UNCTAD DEL AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 GENEVA 05737 111245Z

BRUNGART OF MISSION WILL BE ACCREDITED AS ADVISORS TO OECD MEETING. ON CHARTER, SUFFICIENT GUIDANCE AVAILABLE IN REFTELS AND OTHER TELEGRAMS EXCHANGED ON THE ISSUES. WOULD APPRECIATE COMMENTS ON EC POSITION AS STATED BY SALTER AND FURTHER GUIDANCE, IF JUDGED NECESSARY, ON WHAT US SHOULD SAY WITH REGARD TO VOTES ON CHARTER AT OECD MEETING.
DALE

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